

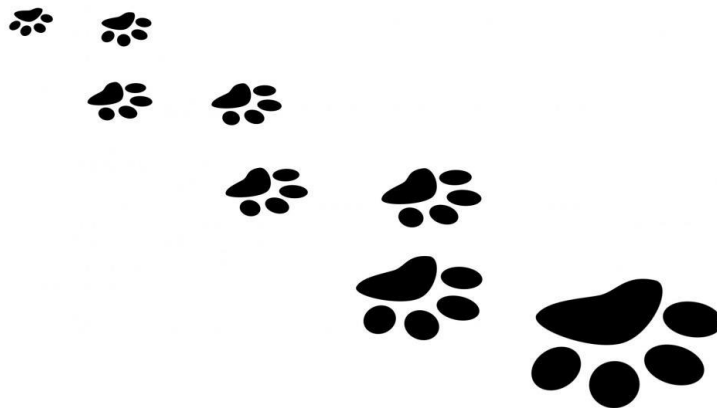
MAY/JUNE 2023

THE GROWLER

Newsletter of the



Established 1974



Note: Articles appearing in this Newsletter are considered to be of interest to our readers and do not necessarily express the opinions of the Committee of Editor of the S&DODC Inc. Who accept no responsibility for the accuracy of claims made by the advertisers in this Newsletter.

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OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE 2021/2022

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Vice President: Helen Vernon
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Committee: Marg Delai, Mellissa Moore, Helen Vernon, Tracey Simmons, David Sanford, Paula Laidlaw
Trial Manager: TBA **Trial Secretary:** Julie Rafferty
Property Steward: TBA **Editor:** Alicia Jones

Class Times

Beginners/Newcomers and Novice and above Classes: 9.00am to 9.45am

Intermediate and CCD Classes: 10.00am to 10.45am

Every Sunday – Beginner Class: 9.00am – 9.45am

1st Sunday: 9.00 am Obedience for Beginners and Novice 10.00am intermediate and CCD

2nd Sunday 8.00 am Tricks and Nose work Obedience 09.00 am to 10.45 am, Committee meeting 11am

3rd Sunday 9.00 am Obedience

4th Sunday 8.00 am Tricks and Nose work Obedience 09.00 am to 10.45am, Every second month on the last Sunday; Graduation testing only 9.00am

IF ITS RAINING WE ARE STILL TRAINING

Besides serious heat and flood dangers (don't be silly don't drive through flood waters) we say "there is no inappropriate weather just inappropriate clothing ☺ make it rain treaties."





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MEMBERSHIP

With effect from 2020, the membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December each year.

Membership Fees are due for Renewal until the end of February 2022.

If you fail to renew before February 2022, you will be required to pay the joining fee again.

Membership fees have changed for the first time since 2011:

Junior \$20.00

Singles \$30.00

Family \$60.00

The joining fee is \$10 + \$8.65 insurance Class fees have not changed and remain at \$3.00

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS OUR CLASS SIZES ARE GROWING RAPIDLY WE APPRECIATE YOU JOINING US, HOPE YOU WILL STICK WITH US FOR THIS JOURNEY WE CALL LOVING OUR DOGS

Month	Member		Dog	Breed
Apr-23	Kerrie	Gellie	Duke	Golden Retriever
	Caitlyn	Hansen	Boof	GWP
	Avalon	Karafau	Jinderbyne	Springer Spaniel
	Tyler	Brennan	Sam	GSD x Husky
	Helen	Ponting	Bailey	Labrador x
	Geoff	Gray		
	Sharon	O'Neill	TeddyB	Husky Shepherd X
	Gabrielle	Sait	Monti	Groodle Mini
May-23	Maree	Cochrane	Etty	Kelpie X
	Giovanni	Lo Piccolo	Pluto	Mastiff x Heeler
	Trish	Johnson	Bentley	Jack Russell
	Leah	Jones	Maple	Golden Retriever
	Geoff	Thompson	Louie	Toy Poodle
	Lily	Gaylard	Lottie	Golden Retriever
	Tom	Bartels	Smokey	Labrador
	Jay	Ibbott	Marlo	GSP
	Bernadete	Simkin	Stella	Staghound
	Holly	Cottingham	Paisley	Chihuahua
	Deb	Cardilini	Fern	Papillon
	Brittany	Sullivan	Luna	Dachshund
			Remi	Dachshund
	Laura	Henderson	Ruby	Spoodle
	Lorraine	McNeill	Pearl	Cavalier King Charles
	Alex	Cormican	Gidget	Border Collie
	Terry	Cormican		
	Margie	Hodge	Oscar	Cavalier King Charles
	Cherie	Woods		
	Kim	Furness	Maycee	Jack Russell
	Jason	Lancaster	Jackson	Jack Russell
	Joe	Mercaldi	Max	Dobermann

Graduations

Held the last Sunday-March, May, July, September & October

Eligible—Intermediate class and above

Starting 9.00 am Beginner class is held as normal at 9 am

It is a fun time and you get one on one advice from the judges to help you understand the progress you are making, also it is practice if you intend to enter Open Trials. The obedience exercises that are practiced in your current class are the exercises upon which you and your dog will be judged individually. The Sit and Down stay are group exercises. There are Certificates & ribbons for place getters & a passing score means you move up to the next class.

Your 3 highest scores earned at three Graduations in the calendar year count towards determining the End of Year Trophies:-

Lady Handler, Male Handler and Junior Handler.

Exercises –

Intermediate—All exercises are on lead. Heel pattern with sits, stands & drops; sit for examination; recall; sit and down stay as a group.

CCD (Community Companion Dog)- All exercises are on lead except the sit & down stay. Heel pattern with Figure of 8, Sits, Stands & Drops; Stand for examination; Recall, 1 min Sit and 2 min Down stay as a group.

Novice — All exercises are Off lead - Heel pattern with Figure of 8, sits, stands & drops, Stand for examination; Recall; Dumbbell retrieve or Change of position; 1 min Sit and 3 min Down stays.

Open — All excises are Off lead— Heel pattern as above; Stand for examination; Drop on recall; Retrieve dumbbell on flat; Retrieve dumbbell over solid jump or Directed retrieve (gloves); Broad jump or distance control; 3 min Down stay out of sight.

UD (Utility Dog) – upon request

Intermediate & CCD scores— A qualifying score 85, out of 100.

Novice & Open Scores— A qualifying score 170, out of 200.

Handlers pass Intermediate, CCD and Novice once, not necessarily in the same year. Open and above classes can be repeated at any graduation.



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Presidents Page – June 2023

Welcome to all our new members that have joined us, traditionally in the winter months our beginner classes have been smaller, but this year we have had some big beginner classes in the cold weather, it is great to see everyone wanting to train their dogs and to have great family members that are well behaved when they go out in the community. I love seeing the variety of dogs that we have coming through and watch them as they progress from week to week and make those small but very important progressions to being great pets and companions for many years to come. It is very important to be patient, remember that on a Sunday morning with a large number of people and dogs around it is the highest level of distraction you can get, if your dog is a little over whelmed or excited move away a little, take in what the instructors are teaching and go back to basics at home, work on getting your dog to focus on you and learn their reward/paise word, lots of repetition, remember not to try to rush, make sure you have the basics right, when they are good at this at home, try the front yard, a quiet park around the corner where there is not lot of people or other dogs and build from there, before you know it they will be nice and calm and focused at class, it just takes time and lots of practice.

A number of our members have been busy travelling to trials in several disciplines including scent work, tricks, obedience and Rally O with so great results being achieved. It is fair to say that a lot of our members that do attend official trials never initially set out with this in mind but have found something that they love doing with their dogs and have wanted to take it to the next level and challenge themselves and see how they go. It is not for everyone but if you think it is something that you could see yourself doing have a talk to a member that has some experience, and I am sure they will be able to assist with some guidance.

If you are out and about talking to family and friends and they mention they are looking to get a dog I would encourage you to ask some questions, what sought of dog, have you researched this breed, have you considered their bread trats, how strong it is, your stage of life etc, you never know the questions you ask could just be the one that makes them consider what they are looking at and help them make a decision that will result in a great family companion versus a hard decision to give up a pet that they are not able to manage or live with.

One final reminder from me, a question that has been raised on several occasions this year, do we train in the rain? The answer is yes, training is still on if it is raining, if you do not feel like coming in the wet that is also alright, but there will be club members there to assist with training.

Kind Regards,

Leigh Williams (President)

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AKA, fun things to keep your dog busy



Ditch the food bowl. Feed meals out of work-to-eat toys or toss kibble in the grass for them to find.



A flirt pole gives dogs with high prey-drive an outlet for their need to chase things



Some dogs love to dig. Give them a legal outlet for this fun activity, build a digging pit. You, your dog and your garden will be happier for it



When on walks let your dog sniff. Dogs navigate the world thru their noses, like humans do with our eyes.



Fetch is a good way to tap into a dog's desire to chase





For dog-friendly dogs there is nothing better than regular off-leash play



Provide a variety of toys .Tug toys, chew toys and squeaky toys . Get them hooked on chew toys instead of your couch legs.

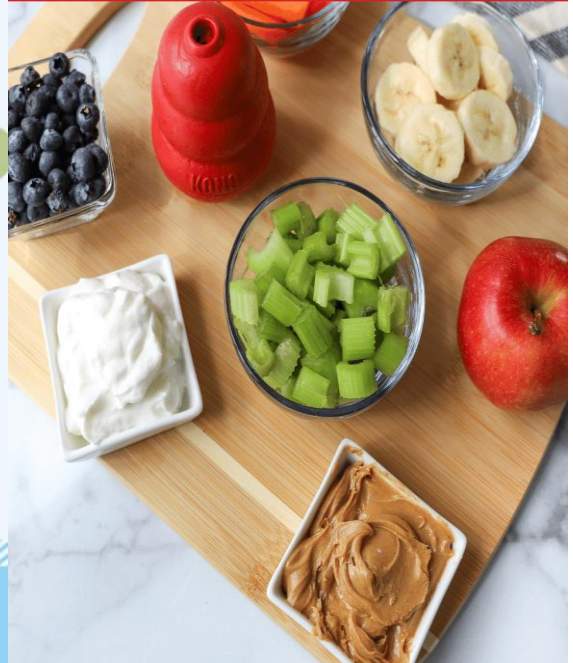
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Another great trialling weekend at Wangaratta on 13 & 14 May 2023, a strong contingent from Shepparton Club had a successful time over the two days at this well run trial that ordered autumn good weather.

Passes achieved in Obedience and Rally In no particular order - Paula with Bailey, Helen with Tia and Lil, Anthony with Alan, Julie with Davey, Barb with Willow returning to the trialling scene, David with Luna were first time trailers; plus 1st, 2nd or 3rd place getters. Anthony and Alan were standouts in Rally Masters with 100 out of 100, 1st place; Julie with Davey also gained their final pass in Masters to achieve Rally O Champion title.



Sharon & Shelby, Helen & Tia, Anthony & Alan, Peter & Lil, Julie & Davey, Paula & Bailey, David & Luna, Barb & Willow.



Trial Results

Our Tricksters went to the WAG Tricks Trial on 10 June 2024, it was an undercover area with a sand/carpet fibre base. Helen Vernon had success with various passes for Lil and Tia, each coming home with their Novice Title. Anthony Locket and Alan also had nice passes but still need a couple more before a title can be claimed. Julie Rafferty and Davey, well Davey being a lapdog, said this sand base is too cold and wet for me to work on and so came home with nothing. Alan's advice was "toughen up", I hope Mum didn't hear because she would then make me practise outside in the cold and wet. Also there is no photo due to being a "Bar · Bones Trial" meaning that ribbons/sashes were not presented to place getters.

Paula Laidlaw and Bailey recently competed in Rally in Gippsland and were successful in gaining their final passes for Rally Champion Title, they are now eligible to compete in the DogsVic State Rally Competition later this year.

Congratulations Team Bailey.

Congratulations to Helen Vernon who trialed Scentwork at Frankston on 25 June, a very cold day by all accounts, Team Helen came home with another pass towards their Scentwork title.

Robyn Masterson and Bella have had a very successful time in the Agility ring so far this year, and with more trials later in the year we look forward to recording further successes. Jumping Dog Open Title and 1st place, it just proves that accurate little dogs can beat their larger cousins. Titles also for Games Dog, Snooker Dog, Strategic Pairs Dog and Tricks Novice.

Congratulations Team Bella.

Watch this space

Belinda Farley has passed Track 7 and only needs 1 more pass for Track 8 to gain another title for Tracking.

Shepparton & District Obedience Dog Club Inc.

Triple Tricks Trial

Saturday 6th April 2024



How to Calm an Overly Excited Dog

Restore calm with this one easy-to-teach cue

By Nicole Wilde | Featured photo Niamh Lily Fisher/shutterstock.com

“Out of nowhere, he starts racing around like a crazy dog!”

“The kids want to play with her, but she gets so excited she won’t stop nipping!”

“She keeps jumping on everyone and can’t seem to calm down!!”

Does any of this sound familiar? As a trainer, I hear these types of comments not only from puppy owners, but from owners of adolescent and adult dogs as well. To understand how to calm an overly excited dog, we first must understand *why* the dog is behaving the way he is.

Is it just the “zoomies?”

First, there are the “zoomies.” sudden bursts of energy our dogs would suddenly start racing in loops around and around the living room couch. Your dog might do something similar, perhaps tearing around in circles in your yard as though he’s chasing an invisible bunny. Believe it or not, that’s perfectly normal behaviour! In fact, it’s in your dog’s very DNA. Dogs basically are crepuscular, meaning they are most active at dawn and dusk. That’s when they would be out hunting, and it is the reason your dog’s zoomies normally happen around dawn and dusk. If your dog gets the zoomies, let him have at it! Toss a ball, chase him around, or just encourage him to keep running wild on his own. It’s a perfectly harmless way for him to expend energy, and he’ll be all the calmer for it afterward.



Photo Sari ONeal/bigstock.com

Play the “freeze!” game

Speaking of playing with your dog, is that when he normally gets overly aroused? While he’s racing around, his system is being flooded with adrenalin and other stress chemicals. If he lacks self-control, that over-the-top enthusiasm could manifest as jumping, nipping, or, if you have young children, even knocking them down. A great way to address this is to teach your dog the “Freeze!” game. I’m going to assume here that your dog knows Sit. To get your dog to “freeze,” begin by folding your arms and then immediately asking your dog to sit. Repeat a number of times and, if you have young children, ask them to do it as well. Your dog will soon anticipate that folded arms mean he should sit. Once your dog responds immediately to folded arms by sitting even without the verbal cue “sit,” it’s time to play the game.

Here's how to teach your dog this behaviour:

Let's say you have two kids. With everyone having treats handy, begin walking around slowly at a distance from each other. No doubt your dog will start walking around as well, wanting to be part of the game. When you see that your dog is near one of the kids, say, "Freeze!" When you do, everyone should immediately stop walking, fold their arms, and stand still. Whoever the dog is closest to should face the dog and ask for a Sit. Once he does, a treat should be given, and the game continues. As you go, assuming your dog is doing well, the action should get more and more exciting, moving through rounds of faster and faster walking, working up to running, screaming, waving arms, or whatever your kids want to do.

If he lacks self-control, that over-the-top enthusiasm could manifest as jumping, nipping, or, if you have young children, even knocking them down.

With practice, your dog will learn that anyone stopping and folding arms means he should immediately stop what he's doing and sit. Now, when your kids are playing and your dog starts getting overly aroused, chasing them, jumping and nipping, anyone can yell, "Freeze!" and everyone will freeze in place and fold arms, and your dog will automatically sit. This exercise is excellent for empowering kids, teaching your dog self-control, and putting a break in the action so it does not keep escalating unchecked. It is also helpful for when your dog jumps on your kids, as they can fold their arms in order to get your dog to stop and sit.

Is the way you're petting your dog triggering over-excitement? It's more common than you think!

Another thing that can get a dog overly excited, believe it or not, is simple petting. I cannot tell you how many times I've heard someone say, "He loves it when I pet him, but then he starts nipping!" The trick is in *how* you pet. If you use long, calm, gentle yet firm strokes and avoid coming down over your dog's head, your dog should relax. If you pat, pat, pat, wildly scratch, or otherwise pet your dog in a less-than-calm way, he will respond by becoming excited and may even think you are soliciting play. Since he does not have opposable thumbs, he will instead use his mouth to respond. This happens especially when dogs are patted over the head. If your dog tends to get worked up when pet, pay attention to the interaction and try to take your own excitement down a few notches.

Is a lack of exercise the problem?

Lastly, if your dog seems to be hyperactive in general rather than only in specific situations, be sure he is getting enough exercise. Depending on his age, breed, and physical condition, he could require anything from a ten-minute walk to a minimum mile-long hike to meet his physical needs and thereby behave more calmly at home. (Most teenage dogs get nowhere close to enough exercise.)

Be sure, too, to provide plenty of mental stimulation in the form of:

- ▶ Chew items such as stuffed Kongs or bully sticks
- ▶ Puzzles where he has to move things in order to get to treats (always supervise)
- ▶ Training sessions, especially clicker training, which teaches dogs to think for themselves and offer behaviours.



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OH&S REMINDER



Please wear appropriate footwear when training your dog in class



No thongs, or high heels

If your dog steps on a thong, you can fall and may need medical attention, plus the noise from thongs can distract or upset your own dog or other dogs. Long coats and flappy skirts/dresses can also distract your dog from training. Heels and unstable footwear can roll an ankle.

WARNING - **Please do not touch or walk close to unattended dogs that are tied to a fence or post etc. This also includes dogs that are in crates.**



When dogs are tethered or contained they see the area around them as “Their” space and will protect it. Be aware and walk about 2 metres away from them.



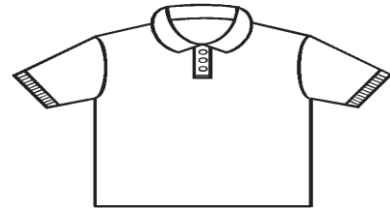
The Club polo shirts and zip front fleece jackets are now available.

Check out your size in the Clubhouse.

Colour: Royal blue with white trim plus club logo.

Fabric: Driwear mini-waffle knit, easy care.

Polos: \$30 each, Zip Front Fleece Jackets: - \$38 each



Club Merchandise Items for Sale

- Club badges (enamel) \$6,50
- Club cloth decals
- Correction chains-quality steel, various prices
- Dog leads (soft) - from \$8.50
- Dumbbells -from \$10 (plastic, floats in water)
- Liver Treats \$3.50
- Pigs ears \$1.70
- Ponchos and Harnesses (various sizes)

“Please give me space”

At some time, you will see someone wearing these vests. Please respect a member and their dog when wearing this fluoro yellow vest and keep a reasonable distance away from the dog. If possible attract the handler’s attention before approaching. Remember not all dogs are 100% confident or friendly, they may be scared, or reactive around other dogs, or being rehabilitated which is why they are attending the club classes. If you wish to use a vest please speak to one of the instructors.





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WHATS UNDER THE HOOD.

The Kelpie is an iconic Australian bred working dog dating back to the 1800s, they say Australia was grown on the back of the wool industry well these tireless workers kept it all together in a time even before dirt bikes and vehicles, going through dense shrub land where no horse would even follow, Designed to withstand Australia's harsh and ever-changing conditions where their overseas counterparts failed they have a wonderful history much of which you will find on the working kelpie council of Australia's website. As with many breeds there is a working line and a show line some breeding for colour and conformation even temperament others for Drive (working ability) and Purpose (ie: smaller build dogs fit better in crates under trucks for transport larger dogs tend to be more resilient with cattle (there are exceptions again goes back to workability))

AUSTRALIAN KELPIE

Purpose

- Past → Herding
- Present → Companion, 'show dog', obedience, agility and herding

Physical Standards

- Coat colours: black, black and tan, red, red and tan, blue, blue and tan, fawn, fawn and tan and cream (yellow)
- Coat type: smooth
- Expected lifespan: 10 – 14 years
- Weight range: 11 – 21 kg
- Height range: 43 – 55 cm



Common Health Problems

- PRA 📖

Temperament

- Compact, robust and tireless
- Good with children, if socialised early
- Energetic and work-oriented; most popular and successful of all working breeds
- Non-aggressive but can be very protective of family and their belongings, when necessary

Lifestyle Considerations

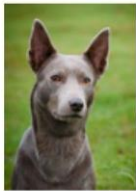
- Not recommended for indoor living; they are a working dog that needs plenty of open space to run. Bred to weather Australian heat, so are content living outdoors, as long as adequate shelter and water is available
- Average 'shedder', so easy to groom; needs only the occasional brushing
- Will try to herd other dogs and pets, whether they want it or not

Training and Behavioural Considerations

- This workaholic requires a job that will keep it physically and mentally challenged; with the necessary type and amount of exercise, this breed can excel; without it, boredom is sure to create problematic behaviour
- Require long, daily walks, as well as many sessions of work or play. Will run until it drops; makes excellent running / jogging companion
- Firm handling is a must, as they are highly intelligent, independent and in business for themselves, rather than for pleasing a handler; can become very dominant, if strong leadership is lacking; not recommended for meek or inexperienced owners



Coat Colours



Fawn



Smokeblue



Red and tan



Red



Cream



Black and tan



Black



Chocolate



Blue and tan



Blue



SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.

ESTABLISHED 1974

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